

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of
Yoshihisa Takubo

Appln. No. 09/769,339

Confirmation No.: 5113

Filed: January 26, 2001

For: PNEUMATIC TIRE



#5/USP
1/8/02

Group Art Unit: 3617

Examiner: TBA

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STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)

GROUP 3600

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The undersigned attorney hereby states that, upon information and belief:

Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: December 27, 2001

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**PATENT APPLICATION
Q62555**

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 that the Examiner may deem material to the patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

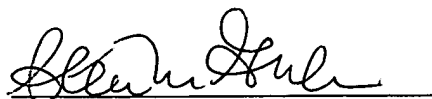
The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) no later than three (3) months from the application's filing date for an application other than a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(d); or (2) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) before the

mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. §1.114. Although no Statement Under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required, Applicant is nevertheless submitting a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) concurrently herewith.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Communication from a Foreign Patent Office in a counterpart application citing such documents, together with an English-language version (if not already included) of that portion of the Communication indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



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